

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 PA-02 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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DRAFTED BY EUR/P:WJGEHRON:SS

APPROVED BY EUR/P:FSEIDNER

EUR/SE - MR. DAY

S/PRS - MR. TRATTNER

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P 221942Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR

SUBJECT: ATHENS DEMONSTRATION

1. ATHENS DEMONSTRATION RECEIVED SCANT PRESS ATTENTION
IN MAJOR NEWS JOURNALS.

2. IN ANTICIPATION POSSIBLE INQUIRIES AT NOON BRIEFING
FACTUAL STATEMENT OF DEMONSTRATION AT EMBASSY WAS PREPARED
ALONG WITH FOLLOW UP Q'S AND A'S. SUBJECT WAS NOT RAISED
AT THE BRIEFING, BUT FOLLOWING Q'S AND A'S WERE DRAWN
UPON IN RESPONDING TO INDIVIDUAL MEDIA INQUIRIES:

-- Q'S AND A'S

Q: CAN YOU GIVE US AN INDICATION OF THE VALUE OF DAMAGE?

A: NOT AT THIS TIME. WE ARE AWAITING A FULL REPORT FROM
THE EMBASSY ON THIS MATTER.

Q: WHO WAS BEHIND THE DEMONSTRATION?

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A: IN ITS OFFICIAL STATEMENT, THE GREEK GOVERNMENT CONDEMNED THE ACTIONS OF "EXTREMIST" ELEMENTS. WE HAVE NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Q: WERE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE PROTECTION PROVIDED BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT?

A: IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO ASSESS OR CHARACTERIZE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE ATHENS POLICE, HOWEVER, THE DAMAGE TO THE EMBASSY SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.

Q: HAS ANY PROTEST BEEN MADE TO THE GREEK GOVERNMENT?

A: WE HAVE INSTRUCTED AMBASSADOR KUBISCH TO LODGE AN OFFICIAL PROTEST WITH THE GREEK GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAS ITSELF STRONGLY CONDEMNED THE ATTACK AND HAS ALREADY INFORMALLY EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR KUBISCH ITS DEEP REGRETS ABOUT THE INCIDENT.

Q: WILL YOU SEEK COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE TO THE EMBASSY?

A: YES. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT IT WILL MAKE FULL COMPENSATION FOR THE DAMAGE SUSTAINED. KISSINGER

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